

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Wells¹ W4139

Sarah Butcher²

fn43VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/24/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

District of Kentucky: SS

On this 20th day of April 1819 before me the Subscriber the Judge of the Circuit Court for Breckenridge County aforesaid District personally appeared James Wells aged about fifty-nine or sixty years old resident in Breckenridge County in the said District who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the provision of the Late Act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War." That he the said James Wells enlisted in December in the year 1776 in the State of Virginia for three years in the Company commanded by Captain Edward Garland of the 14th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Charles Lewis that he continued to serve in said Corps or in said service of the United States until the year 1779 when he was discharged from Service in Petersburg in the State of Virginia having served out the aforesaid term of three years – , that he was in the Battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth &c and that he received several wounds in said battles and that he is in reduced Circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for Support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services. – Sworn to and declared before me the day and year aforesaid.

S/ James Wells, X his mark

State of Kentucky and County of Breckenridge

On this 20th day of October 1821 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for the County aforesaid (made such by the Statutes of the State and having power of fine and imprisonment) James Wells age sixty-one years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the first of May 1820. That he the said Wells enlisted for the term of three years on the __ day of __ in the year 1776 or 1777 in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Edward Garland in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Charles Lewis in the line of the State of __ on the Continental establishment that he continued to serve in the said Corps until __ when he was discharged from said service in __ in the State of Virginia that he was in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth that he was wounded in two places and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except the deposition of Lieutenant Colonel A. Buford accompanying this application marked 'A' which the said Wells states was sworn to before John Thomson a Justice of the peace for the

¹ BLWt10010-160-55

² Former widow

County of Scott in the State of Kentucky and in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

A Schedule of the property of James Wells by him annexed on the 20th day of October in the year 1821

One cow and calf worth	\$10
One bed worth	12
One pot and oven worth	6
One plow and gear	4
Other utensils	4.50
Three hogs	4.50
One Wheel	1
One table and one chair	2
Cupboard Furniture	2
One Debt	5

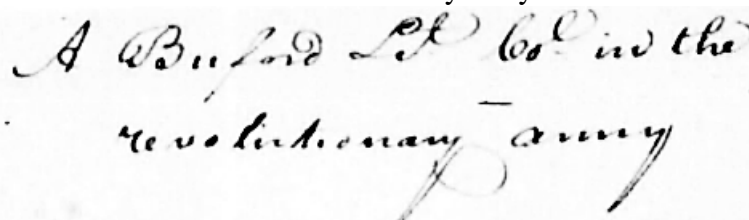
S/ John Wells, X his mark

This declarant further states that his occupation is that of a farmer, that he is extremely crippled and infirm and very unable to pursue it for his support, that he has a wife and six small children the oldest is a girl ten years named Susan the second a boy eight years old named James two other girls and two sons all younger, the age of his wife is thirty-seven years

[fn pp 9-10]

I hereby Certify that James Wells who says he now lives in Breckenridge County in the State of Kentucky must have enlisted in Captain Edward Garlands Company in the latter part of the year 1776 or early in the year 1777 for three years that as a Soldier with said Garlands Company he said Wells joined the 14th Virginia Regiment or Continental establishment at Fredericksburg early in the Spring of the year 1777 and marched with said Regiment to the Northern Army which then lay in Jersey and continued with said Regiment until the spring of the year 1779 when I was ordered with General Scotts detachment to the South that said Wells joined my Regt in said detachment at Petersburg Virga in the early part of the year 1779 and continued with said Regt in Service until the expiration of 3 years the time he enlisted for when he got a discharge Said Wells was wounded at the battle of Brandywine. Given under my hand Scott County Kentucky October 27th 1819

S/ A Buford Lt. Col. in the
revolutionary army



A Buford Lt. Col. in the
revolutionary army

[fn p. 14: On February 10, 1851 in Breckenridge County Kentucky, Sarah Butcher, aged 70, filed for a widow's pension stating that her maiden name was Sarah Johnson; that on or about the 15th day of January 1797, she married James Wells in Ohio territory town of Deerfield; that they were married by Andrew Lytle, Esquire; that James Wells was a soldier of the revolution and a pensioner of the United States at the time of his death on June 15, 1841; that she remained his widow until January 21, 1846 when she married William Butcher in Hancock County Kentucky; William Butcher died June 3, 1848; that she remains a widow.]

[fn p. 42: On March 16, 1853 in Breckenridge County Kentucky, Sarah Butcher, filed another application for a widow's pension; in this when she states that she is the widow of James Wells, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum; that she married him in Deerfield Warren County Ohio at an early day but cannot state the exact time; that in another application she had of latest that she married him in 1797 or 1798 but she now is of the impression that the marriage took place at a later date; that her husband died June 15 1841; that she later married William Buckner who also died on June 15, 1846 leaving her a widow.]

[fn p. 38: On December 19, 1853 in Breckenridge County, the widow filed another application this time claiming a pension under the 1853 act; she states that she is the widow of James Wells a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum; that she married him "many years ago in Deerfield Warren County Ohio but having no record of the same is unable to state the date of her said marriage"; that her maiden name was ___; that James Wells died on or about the 15th of June 1846 and that she afterwards married William Butler who died June 30th 1848 and that she remains a widow.]

[fn p. 11: On April 7, 1855 in Breckenridge County Kentucky, Sarah Butcher, aged about 95, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the former widow of James Wells, a soldier of the revolution.]

[fn p. 13: record of marriage licenses shows license dated March 27, 1821 to James Wells to marry Sarah Houk [Howk or Hawk?³] issued in Warren County, Ohio.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 20, 18th 19 for 3 years service as a private in the Virginia Continental line. Veteran's former widow was pensioned at the rate of \$96 per annum commencing February 3rd, 1853.]

³ *Hawk*

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Addendum to James Wells W4139

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 7 February 2023.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

The Bearer James Wells a Soldier in the 10th Virginia Reg't.* Having serv'd three years the term of his inlistment in the Continental Army Is hereby Discharged Given under my hand at Camp Petersburg December 19th 1779. Ab'r. Buford [Abraham Buford S46372] Col. 11th Virg'a Re
a Copy [illegible signature]

Halifax County Sept'r 18th 1783.

I do hereby empower Samuel McGraw to apply to the auditors of Public accounts for a Certificate for my arrears of pay & Depreciation with one years Interest thereon, and to the War Office for a Certificate for my bounty in Land for my Services as a Soldier three years in the 10th Virg'a Reg't. Given under my hand and seal the day and date above written. James hisXmark Wells
Test/ John Barkley/ Samuel McGraw Jun'r.

*[The 14th Virginia Regiment was renumbered as the 10th Virginia Regiment in 1778.]